

By Patrick Goodenough

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USCIRF acting executive director Knox Thames said Wednesday night that the commission has raised concerns with the administration and State Department about the delay in filling the post.

“Considering that this position is, by law, to be the principle adviser to the president and the secretary of state on religious freedom, the prolonged vacancy leaves U.S. religious freedom promotion at a disadvantage,” he said.

Knox said staff at the State Department’s international religious freedom office “have done well to continue to advocate during the interregnum, but the seating of an ambassador soon would do much to empower their work.”